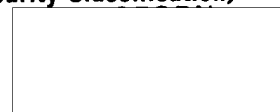


ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1			
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	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
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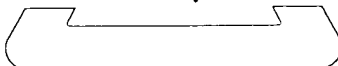
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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
ORCON-	Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator
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**SS-NX-20 ACTIVITY
SEVERODVINSK NAVAL BASE WEST, USSR**

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: THE TYPHOON NUCLEAR-POWERED BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINE (SSBN) HAS ARRIVED AT THE SUBMARINE-LAUNCHED BALLISTIC MISSILE (SLBM) HANDLING FACILITY FOR SS-NX-20 COMPATIBILITY/LOADING OPERATIONS.

2. (S/D) REMARKS: THE TYPHOON NUCLEAR-POWERED BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINE (SSBN) HAS ARRIVED AT THE SLBM HANDLING FACILITY AT SEVERODVINSK NAVAL BASE WEST [REDACTED] THE SUBMARINE WAS LAST OBSERVED AT THE CALIBRATION PIER AT SEVERODVINSK SHIPYARD 402 [REDACTED] THE TYPHOON IS POSITIONED BENEATH THE LARGE SLBM HANDLING CRANE IN PREPARATION FOR SS-NX-20 COMPATIBILITY/LOADING OPERATIONS. ONE 19-METER, SS-NX-20-ASSOCIATED RAILCAR HAS ALSO ARRIVED AT THE LOADING FACILITY [REDACTED] AND IS OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER FENCE AT 0950Z. IN ADDITION, TWO PROBABLE MISSILE-RELATED RAILCARS ARE ADJACENT TO THE SLBM HANDLING CRANE. IN PROBABLY UNRELATED ACTIVITY, A STRUCTURE OF UNDETERMINED FUNCTION HAS BEEN PLACED AROUND THE TOP OF THE TYPHOON UPPER RUDDER. THIS STRUCTURE WAS FIRST OBSERVED AFTER THE SUBMARINE WAS REMOVED FROM THE LAUNCH DOCK AT SHIPYARD 402.

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(S/D) BY 1721Z, THE HOISTING MECHANISM OF THE HANDLING CRANE IS POSITIONED OVER THE MISSILE BAY OF THE SUBMARINE. THE CRANE'S BLOCK AND TACKLE HAS BEEN LOWERED OVER THE OPEN DOOR OF THE STARBOARD MISSILE TUBE FORWARD OF THE SUBMARINE'S SAIL. THE 19-METER RAILCAR HAS BEEN MOVED INSIDE THE PERIMETER FENCE, AND ONE OF THE MISSILE-RELATED RAILCARS IS NO LONGER OBSERVED.

(S/D) THE TYPHOON SSBN WAS LAST OBSERVED AT THE SLBM HANDLING FACILITY [REDACTED] PRIOR TO THE FIRST AT-SEA LAUNCH OF THE SS-NX-20 FROM THE WHITE SEA [REDACTED] (REFERENCE DEFSMAC271522Z DEC 81). THE MOVEMENT OF THE SUBMARINE TO THE LOADING FACILITY SUGGESTS FUTURE MISSILE-RELATED ACTIVITY. HOWEVER, ALL 20 DEMI-BALLAST CANS REMAIN ON THE QUAY AT SHIPYARD 402. IT IS LIKELY THAT SOME BALLAST CANS WOULD BE LOADED ABOARD THE SUBMARINE PRIOR TO AN ACTUAL MISSILE LOADING.

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3. [REDACTED], COORDINATES 64-34-21N 039-45-53E

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DIRECTED TO THE NPIC/PEG OPERATIONS OFFICER.

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